



The first Part of Henry the Sixt.

Actus Primus. Scena Prima.

Dead March.

Enter the Funerall of King Henry the Fifth, attended on by the Duke of Bedford, Regent of France; the Duke of Gloster, Protector; the Duke of Exeter Warwicke, the Bishop of Winchester, and the Duke of Somerset.

Bedford.

Being by heavens with black yeld day to night;
Comets importing change of Times and States,
Brandish your crytall Tresses in the Skie,
And with them scourge the bad reuolting Stars,
That haue consented vnto *Henries* death:
King *Henry* the Fifth, too famous to liue long,
England ne're lost a King of so much worth.

Gloster. England ne're had a King vntill his time:
Vertue he had, deseruing to command,
His brandisht Sword did blinde men with his beames,
His Armes spred wider then a Dragons Wings:
His sparkling Eyes, repleat with wrathfull fire,
More dazled and droue back his Enemies,
Then mid-day Sunne, fierce bent against their faces.
What should I say? his Deeds exceed all speech:
He ne're lift vp his Hand, but conquered.

Exe. We mourne in black, why mourne we not in blood?
Henry is dead, and neuer shall reuiue:
Vpon a Wooden Coffin we attend;
And Deaths dishonourable Victorie,
We with our stately presence glorifie,
Like Captiues bound to a Triumphant Carre.
What? shall we curse the Planets of Mishap,
That plotted thus our Glories ouerthrow?
Or shall we thinke the subtil-witted French,
Coniurers and Sorcerers, that afraid of him,
By Magick Verses haue contriued his end.

Winch. He was a King, blest of the King of Kings.
Vnto the French, the dreadfull Iudgement-Day
So dreadfull will not be, as was his fight.
The Battailles of the Lord of Hosts he fought:
The Churches Prayers made him so prosperous.

Gloster. The Church? where is it?
Had not Church-men pray'd,
His thred of Life had not so soone decay'd.
None doe you like, but an effeminate Prince,
Whom like a Schoole-boy you may ouer-awe.

Winch. *Gloster*, what ere we like, thou art Protector,
And lookest to command the Prince and Realme:
Thy Wife is proud, she holdeth thee in awe,
More then God or Religious Church-men may.

Gloster. Name not Religion, for thou lou'st the Flesh,
And ne're throughout the yeere to Church thou go'st,
Except it be to pray against thy foes.

Bed. Cease, cease these larres, & rest your minds in peace:
Let's to the Altar: Heralds wayt on vs;
In stead of Gold, wee'll offer vp our Armes,
Since Armes auayle not, now that *Henry's* dead,
Posteritie await for wretched yeeres,
When at their Mothers moistned eyes, Babes shall suck,
Our Ile be made a Nourish of salt Teares,
And none but Women left to wayle the dead,
Henry the Fifth, thy Ghost I inuocate:
Prosper this Realme, keepe it from Cituill Broyles,
Combar with aduerser Planets in the Heauens;
A farre more glorious Starre thy Soule will make,
Then *Iulius Caesar*, or bright----

Enter a Messenger.

Mess. My honourable Lords, health to you all:
Sad tidings bring I to you out of France,
Of losse, of slaughter, and discomfiture:
Guyen, Champagne, Rheimes, Orleans,
Paris, Guyfors, Poitiers, are all quite lost.

Bedf. What say'st thou man, before dead *Henry's* Coarse?
Speake softly, or the losse of those great Townes
Will make him burst his Lead, and rise from death.

Gloster. Is Paris lost? is Roan yeelded vp?
If *Henry* were recall'd to life againe,
These newes would cause him once more yeeld the Ghost.

Exe. How were they lost? what trecherie was vs'd?
Mess. No trecherie, but want of Men and Money.
Amongst the Souldiers this is muttered,
That here you maintaine feuerall Factions:
And whilst a Field should be dispatch and fought,
You are disputing of your Generals.

One would haue lingering Warres, with little cost;
Another would flye swift, but wanteth Wings:
A third thinks, without expence at all,
By guilefull faire words, Peace may be obtayn'd.

Awake, awake, English Nobilitie,
Let not slouth dimme your Honors, new begot;
Cropt are the Flower-de-Luces in your Armes
Of Englands Coat, one halfe is cut away.

Exe. Were our Teares wanting to this Funerall,
These Tidings would call forth her flowing Tides.
Bedf. Me they concerne, Regent I am of France:
Giue me my steeld Coat, Ile fight for France.

Away with these disgracefull wayling Robes;
Wounds will I lend the French, in stead of Eyes,
To weepe their intermissiue Miseries.

Enter

The first Part of Henry the Sixt.

Enter to them another Messenger.

Mess. Lords view these Letters, full of bad mischance.
France is reuolted from the English quite,
Except some petty Townes, of no import.

The Dolphin *Charles* is crowned King in Rheimes:
The Bastard of Orleans with him is ioyn'd:
Regnold, Duke of Aniou, doth take his part,

The Duke of Alanson flyeth to his side. *Exit.*
Exe. The Dolphin crown'd King? all flye to him?
O whether shall we flye from this reproach?

Gloster. We will not flye, but to our enemies throats.
Bedford, if thou be slacke, Ile fight it out.

Bed. *Gloster*, why doubtst thou of my forwardnesse?
An Army haue I musterd in my thoughts,
Wherewith already France is ouer-run.

Enter another Messenger.

Mess. My gracious Lords, to adde to your laments,
Wherewith you now bedew King *Henries* hearie,
I must informe you of a dismall fight,

Between the stout Lord *Talbot*, and the French.

Win. What? wherein *Talbot* ouercame, is't so?

Mess. O no: wherein Lord *Talbot* was o'rethrowne:

The circumstance Ile tell you more at large.

The tenth of August last, this dreadfull Lord,

Reyryng from the Siege of Orleans,

Hauing full scarce six thousand in his troupe,

By three and twentie thousand of the French

Was round encompassed, and set vpon:

No leysure had he to enranke his men.

He wanted Pikes to set before his Archers:

In stead whereof, sharpe Stakes pluckt out of Hedges

They pitched in the ground confusedly,

To keepe the Horsemen off, from breaking in.

More then three houres the fight continued:

Where valiant *Talbot*, about humane thought,

Enacted wonders with his Sword and Lance.

Hundreds he sent to Hell, and none durst stand him:

Here, there, and euery where enrag'd, he flew.

The French exclaim'd, the Deuill was in Armes,

All the whole Army stood agaz'd on him.

His Souldiers spying his vndaunted Spirit,

A *Talbot*, a *Talbot*, cry'd out amaine,

And rusht into the Bowels of the Battaille.

Here had the Conquest fully been seal'd vp,

If Sir *John Falstaffe* had not play'd the Coward.

He being in the Vauward, plac't behinde,

With purpose to relieue and follow them,

Cowardly fled, not hauing struck one stroke.

Hence grew the generall wrack and massacre:

Enclosed were they with their Enemies.

A base Wallon, to win the Dolphins grace,

Thrust *Talbot* with a Speare into the Back,

Whom all France, with their chiefe assembled strength,

Durst not presume to looke once in the face.

Bedf. Is *Talbot* slaine then? I will slay my selfe,

For liuing idly here, in pompe and ease,

Whilst such a worthy Leader, wanting ayd,

Vnto his daftard foe-men is betray'd.

Mess. O no, he liues, but is tooke Prisoner,

And Lord *Scales* with him, and Lord *Hungerford*:

Most of the rest slaughter'd, or tooke likewise.

Bedf. His Ransome there is none but I shall pay.

Ile hale the Dolphin headlong from his Throne,

His Crowne shall be the Ransome of my friend:

Four of their Lords Ile change for one of ours.

Farwell my Masters, to my Taske will I,
Bonfires in France forthwith I am to make,
To keepe our great Saint *Georges* Feast withall.
Ten thousand Souldiers with me I will take,
Whose bloody deeds shall make all Europe quake.

Mess. So you had need, for Orleans is besieg'd,
The English Army is growne weake and faint:

The Earle of Salisbury craueth supply,

And hardly keeps his men from mutinie,

Since they so few, watch such a multitude.

Exe. Remember Lords your Oathes to *Henry* sworne:

Eyther to quell the Dolphin vterly,

Or bring him in obedience to your yoake.

Bedf. I doe remember it, and here take my leaue,

To goe about my preparation. *Exit Bedford.*

Gloster. Ile to the Tower with all the hast I can,

To view th' Artillerie and Munition,

And then I will proclayme young *Henry* King.

Exit Gloster.

Exe. To Eltam will I, where the young King is,

Being ordain'd his speciall Gouvernor,

And for his safetie there Ile best denife. *Exit.*

Winch. Each hath his Place and Function to attend:

I am left out; for me nothing remains:

But long I will not be Iack out of Office,

The King from Eltam I intend to send,

And sit at chiefeft Sterne of publike Weale.

Exit.

Sound a Flourish.

Enter Charles, Alanson, and Regnair, marching with Drum and Souldiers.

Charles. Mars his true mouing, euen as in the Heauens,
So in the Earth, to this day is not knowne.

Late did he shine vpon the English side:

Now we are Victors, vpon vs he smiles.

What Townes of any moment, but we haue?

At pleasure here we lye, neere Orleans:

Otherwhiles, the famisht English, like pale Ghosts,

Faintly besiege vs one houre in a moneth.

Alans. They want their Porridge, & their fat Bul Beecues:

Eyther they must be dyeted like Mules,

And haue their Prouender ty'd to their mouthes,

Or pitteous they will looke, like drowned Mice.

Regnair. Let's rayse the Siege: why liue we idly here?

Talbot is taken, whom we wont to feare:

Remayneth none but mad-brayn'd *Salisbury*.

And he may well in fretting spend his gall,

Nor men nor Money hath he to make Warre.

Charles. Sound, sound Alarum, we will rush on them.

Now for the honour of the forlorne French:

Him I forgiue my death, that killeth me,

When he sees me goe back one foot, or flye. *Exeunt.*

Here Alarum, they are beaten back by the English, with great losse.

Enter Charles, Alanson, and Regnair.

Charles. Who euer saw the like? what men haue I?

Dogges, Cowards, Daftards: I would ne're haue fled,

But that they left me 'midst my Enemies.

Regnair. *Salisbury* is a desperate Homicide,

He fighteth as one weary of his life:

The other Lords, like Lyons wanting foode,

Doe rush vpon vs as their hungry prey.

Alans. Froy.

Exit.